

Year in Review

2001

INFORMATION for this chronology was taken from **Soldiers** magazine, Army News Service, American Forces Press Service and Army Times archives, as well as Army "Green Top" reports that record events of particular note affecting the Army.

January



- ▶ Thousands of soldiers participate in the inauguration of George W. Bush, the country's 43rd president.



- ▶ A new advertising campaign, "An Army of One," replaces "Be All You Can Be," to appeal to a new generation of potential recruits.

- ▶ The Army's online college education program, eArmyU, signs up first students at Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; and Fort Hood, Texas.

- ▶ SGT Andrew Jackson Smith of the 55th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and LTC Theodore Roosevelt of the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry posthumously receive the Medal of Honor.

- ▶ Soldiers from the 30th and 45th Infantry brigades are the first National Guard units on patrol in Bosnia.

- ▶ Three soldiers from U.S. Special Operations Command deliver the game ball at the National Football Conference championship game between the New York Giants and the Minnesota Vikings at the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N.J.

- ▶ Task Force Desert Lion's deployment to Kuwait features the first National Guard air defense artillery unit to support the operation.



- ▶ Donald Rumsfeld becomes secretary of defense.

February

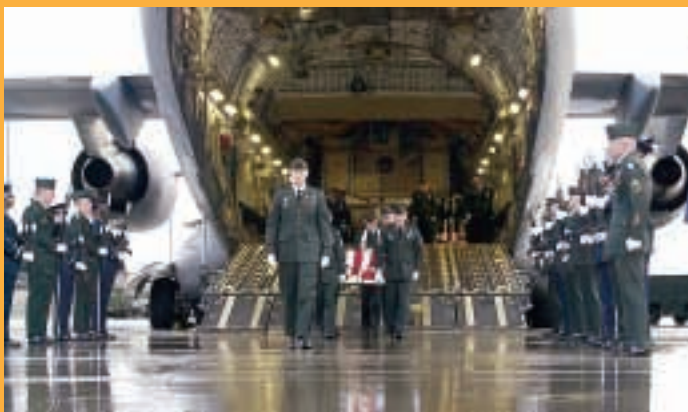
- ▶ The Army commemorates the 10th anniversary of Operation Desert Storm.
- ▶ Officials unveil Army Development System XXI, the personnel management system for warrant officers and enlisted soldiers.
- ▶ The Army tests Officers Basic Training at Fort Benning, Ga.
- ▶ Six soldiers are killed and 11 injured when two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters belonging to the 25th Inf. Division Aviation Bde. crash during a field exercise in the Kahuku Military Training Area, in the northern part of Oahu, Hawaii.
- ▶ Army Chief of Staff GEN Eric K. Shinseki presents the Presidential Unit Citation to the surviving members of the 551st Parachute Inf. Battalion for their actions at the Battle of the Bulge during World War II.



- ▶ The Army wins the armed forces boxing championship.



- ▶ The NCO Journal is back in print after a three-year hiatus.



- ▶ Four soldiers and an airman are killed in a training accident near the Udari Range in Kuwait when a Navy aircraft drops ordnance too close to an observation post.

March

- ▶ Europe deals with hoof-and-mouth disease.
- ▶ Some 750 soldiers, as well as tanks and attack helicopters, leave Bosnia under a mission reduction-in-force plan.
- ▶ Rangers adopt the tan beret.
- ▶ Three Florida National Guard members and 18 Virginia Air National Guard members are killed when their C-23 Sherpa transport crashes in central Georgia while returning to Virginia from annual training.

April

- ▶ The 4th Inf. Div. tests digital combat concepts and equipment at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.
- ▶ NATO's Multinational Division (North) opens a new U.S. base camp, Forward Operating Base Connor, in the eastern part of the Republic of Srpska.
- ▶ Special forces soldiers train in New York City as part of an urban-warfare exercise.
- ▶ British Royal Marines — unable to train in Britain because of precautions meant to halt the spread of hoof-and-mouth disease — train at Fort A.P. Hill, Va.
- ▶ Three soldiers, three airmen and a sailor participating in MIA recovery efforts are killed when the Vietnamese air force helicopter in which they're riding crashes into a mountain in central Vietnam.



▶ The National Guard responds to Midwest flooding.

May



▶ An interim armored vehicle for the Army is unveiled in Washington, D.C.



▶ Thomas E. White, a retired Army brigadier general, becomes the new secretary of the Army.

- ▶ The Army honors TV personality Joan Lunden at Pentagon and Twilight Tattoo ceremonies in Washington, D.C., for her in-depth reports about the Army.
- ▶ The Army participates in Fleet Week in New York City.
- ▶ The U.S. Army Women's Museum opens at Fort Lee, Va., replacing the old museum at Fort McClellan, Ala.



- ▶ President Bush re-enlists 100 service members at a White House ceremony.

June

- ▶ The Army unveils a redesigned website for its 226th birthday.
- ▶ SGT Richard Casini of C Troop, 1st Cav. Regt., receives the Purple Heart after being injured while patrolling smuggling routes in Kosovo.
- ▶ U.S. Army Recruiting Command officials at Fort Knox, Ky., honor "Uncle Sam" poster artist James Montgomery Flagg.
- ▶ The Army begins to tighten security at stateside posts in anticipation of possible terrorist activities.
- ▶ The basic allowance for housing increases for junior enlisted soldiers.
- ▶ A Fort Carson, Colo., court martial convicts the last of seven soldiers charged with burglarizing a McDonald's restaurant near the post. All seven are sentenced to confinement, reduced to private and receive either bad-conduct or dishonorable discharges.



▶ Soldiers begin wearing the black beret.



▶ The Army supports the annual Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, Va.

July



▶ President Bush visits Kosovo.

- ▶ Retired MAJ Ed W. Freeman is awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism while an Army helicopter pilot in Vietnam in 1965.
- ▶ The 1st Cav. Div. gets the improved SEP variant of the Abrams M1 tank.

- ▶ The Army announces the follow-on transformation brigades. They are the 172nd Inf. Bde. at Fort Richardson and Fort Wainwright, Alaska; the 2nd Armored Cav. Regiment at Fort Polk, La.; the 2nd Bde., 25th Inf. Div., at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's 56th Bde, 28th Inf. Div.
- ▶ The Military Traffic Management Command re-organizes.



- ▶ The U.S. military shooting team, which includes six soldiers, wins at the Conseil International du Sport Militaire championships in Lahti, Finland, by besting teams from more than 40 other countries.

August

- ▶ The U.S. Army Chemical Activity, Pacific, on Johnston Island, is inactivated after 30 years as the nation's primary chemical weapons destruction facility.
- ▶ Area Support Group Eagle is activated at Eagle Base, Bosnia, and the U.S. Army Support Element, Taszar, Hungary, is inactivated.
- ▶ After more than 168 days aboard the International Space Station, retired Army COL Jim Voss rides back to earth aboard the space shuttle *Discovery*.



- ▶ The All-Army men's softball team captures its first Armed Forces Softball Tournament since 1995.



- ▶ Army LTC Patrick Forrester, a mission specialist, is among the *Discovery's* crew.
- ▶ MAJ Maude C. Davison — who as chief nurse of the Army's Philippine Department during World War II endured almost three years as a prisoner of war — is posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Medal at the Women's Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery.
- ▶ SFC Grant L. Singley wins the National Service Rifle Championship for the third time in six years.

- ▶ Active-duty and reserve-component soldiers battle wildfires in the western United States.

September

- ▶ Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers becomes the new chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- ▶ President Bush calls up Reserve and Guard units for homeland defense and recovery operations in the wake of the terrorist actions of Sept. 11.

- ▶ The Department of Defense creates the Defense of Freedom medal to honor DOD civilian employees injured or killed in the line of duty.



- ▶ Terrorists attack New York and Washington, D.C., and 74 Army workers are killed in the attack on the Pentagon. In addition, some 3,600 civilians are killed at the World Trade Center.

October

- ▶ Army Knowledge Online accounts become mandatory for soldiers and Department of the Army civilians as the Army moves toward becoming more of a knowledge-based organization.
- ▶ The National Guard's 29th Inf. Div. assumes the task force headquarters mission in Bosnia from the 3rd Inf. Div.
- ▶ Responding to heightened security concerns in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Association of the United States Army cancels its annual Washington, D.C., convention. Also cancelled is the annual Army Ten-Miler road race.
- ▶ The United States and other nations attack terrorist and Taliban targets in Afghanistan. Members of the 10th Mountain Div. from Fort Drum, N.Y., and elements of Army special operations units begin deploying to Uzbekistan and nearby areas as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.
- ▶ Soldiers from the Germany-based 5th Quartermaster Company of the 21st Theater Support Command join Air Force personnel in preparing humanitarian rations for shipment to Afghanis.
- ▶ The Thrift Savings Plan opens for service members.



- ▶ The victims of the terrorist attack on the Pentagon are remembered at a ceremony attended by President Bush and several thousand guests and family members.

- ▶ Blood donor restrictions intended to halt the possible spread of "Mad Cow" disease take effect.
- ▶ SPCs Jill Bakken and Shauna Rohbock place first at the U.S. Bobsled National Team Trials for a place on the U.S. Olympic team.
- ▶ Rangers and other special operations forces conduct raids on an airfield in southern Afghanistan and a Taliban complex near Kandahar.



- ▶ Seventy Pentagon personnel are honored for their acts of bravery on Sept. 11 when a jetliner crashed into the building.

November



- ▶ Families become eligible for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.
- ▶ Special forces members continue to operate in Afghanistan, and soldiers of the 10th Mountain Div. take up positions in the northern part of the country.
- ▶ Veterans are honored at ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and across the nation.

December

- ▶ Army sinks Navy 26-17 in their annual football confrontation.
- ▶ Anti-Taliban forces take control of most of Afghanistan with U.S. and allied assistance.